IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

TAKESHITA et al.

Application No.: 10/791,853

Filing Date: March 4, 2004

For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING ALCOHOL BY USING

MICROORGANISM

Art Unit: 1651

Examiner: Irene MARX

Attorney Ref. No.: US-163

Confirmation No.: 5567

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to taking up this new patent application for action on the merits, please amend the application as follows.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 4.